The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Men commonly think according to their inclinations.—Bacon.

Owners Would Chinafy U. S. Ships; Labor Objects To Debasing Scheme

Washington, May 5.—A plan to Chinafy the American merchant marine is opposed by the International Seamen's Union, supported by the A. F. of L. Executive Council.

The bill, which has been reported to the House, is one of the most daring proposals submitted by shipping interests in their ceaseless campaign to legalize employment of Oriental labor.

The bill would permit employment of Asiatics in the steward's department of vessels. In first-class passenger vessels the steward's department is about two-thirds of the crew, and in combination passenger and freight vessels this department employs from one-third to one-half of the crew.

These workers have not the all-around experience of men in the deck department, but for national defense at sea they are infinitely superior to landsmen without sea experience, said Andrew Furuseth, president International Seamen's Union.

"This was proven by the experience of the Russian fleet which left the Baltic during the Russian-Japanese War, and which ceased to exist within an hour after they came within range of Japanese guns."

President Furuseth quotes records to prove that Chinese pay as high as $1,000 for positions in the steward's department on American ships. These Chinese smuggle Orientals and opium. They will work for nothing to carry on this illicit traffic.

Other features of the bill include a strikebreaking device whereby seamen will be called into the naval reserve by the government when they refuse to work.

The bill would also aid ship owners by relieving them of wage scales which would be partly met by the government.

The bill is the last word in viciousness and shows to what extent ship owners will go in their effort to Chinafy vessels flying the American flag. These owners would fill their ships with the cheapest labor in the world, while pleading that American boys, who refuse to compete with this labor, should be attracted to the sea.

REGULAR UNION AIDS NEW BEDFORD STRIKE

New York, May 5.—Striking textile workers of New Bedford, Mass., members of the American Federation of Textile Operatives, dual to the legitimate United Textile Workers, are given moral aid by the latter union.

The strike involves several thousand workers, who are resisting a 10 per cent wage cut.

"Our organization is desirous of doing everything possible for the New Bedford strikers," said Thomas F. McMahon, international president of the United Textile Workers. "We have suggested that the membership of this dual organization join the United Textile Workers without payment of initiation fee or per capita tax until the strike is settled and until such reasonable time as the workers of New Bedford will be in a position to meet this constitutional obligation.

"Such action would operate to the legitimate trade union movement and friends that New Bedford textile workers are anxious to be a part of organized labor. It would also mean financial and moral indorsement of their strike which cannot be given now, due to their being outside the fold of the American Federation of Labor."

COMMUNISTS GET AID FROM COAL MAGNATES

Washington, May 5.—The contract-breaking Pittsburgh Coal Company has given financial aid to Communists, Louis McGrew, editor of the Pittsburgh Labor World, told the Senate committee that is probing the coal strike. The witness cited the "Save-the-Union" Committee and the Pennsylvania-Ohio Miners' Relief Committee as Communist organizations.

Don Rose, attorney for the Pittsburgh Coal Company, denied the statements and said McGrew didn't believe them.

The labor editor was not awed by the attorney, who was contemptuously referred to as a "jury fixer."

"Listen here, Don," retorted McGrew, "you've done rougher stuff than this."

"I'm not on trial," snapped Rose.

"Well, I'll put you on trial," replied McGrew. "If I told all I know about you, this ceiling would fall down, and I'll say some in two weeks and do it. You've been a 'fixer' ever since you became attorney for the Pittsburgh Coal Company. You can't deny that 'Buttsy' Jones is your jury fixer."

McGrew told the Senators that a telephone call came to him erroneously to his office on March 10, last year, asking for Joe Vitchenstain, editor of the National Labor Tribune. McGrew quoted the caller as saying: "This is John Brophy. Say, Joe, the balance of that money is due today."

The witness said Brophy and Vitchestain later met in the Seventh Avenue Hotel in Pittsburgh.

Brophy is an active member of the "Save-the-Union" Committee. He, together with the Nat onal Labor Tribune, have been denounced by the United Mine Workers.

LABOR PAYS THE PRICE FOR INACTION

Labor will pay the price if they accept the cynical doctrine, "I take no interest in politics."

Workers are not innocents. They note that those who tell them to "keep out of politics!" are not following that advice. This advice is for sinister purposes.

Privilege seekers should not have a clear field. They should be challenged on every occasion.

Mussolinis in this country win every time they induce a citizen to abandon interest in politics. This inaction brings joy to the few who would rule.

Privilege seekers are always in politics. Unionists and other justice-loving citizens should take like action. They should stand for a sound public morality and support men in public life who hold the same viewpoint.

When wrong in high places is exposed, silence is a repudiation of democratic ideals and makes the struggle more difficult for those who seek social legislation.

Every wrong deed by those in public office has a direct bearing on the lives and welfare of wage workers.

Our government is based on popular rule. It differs from the autocratic theory that government is for the benefit of "insiders."

If we refuse to play the part of Americans we make it easy for autocrats.

If we shrink at combat; if we retreat before the tom-toms of allied greed, we are not true to the America of history.

THINGS DON'T "JUST HAPPEN"

It is significant that newspapers are giving little publicity to the Federal Trade Commission's probe of public utilities, and how these corporations have developed a hostile public opinion to government control of Muscle Shoals and Boulder Dam.

The hearings show that the utilities contributed $400,000 since last June for "educational purposes;" that they distributed 2,000,000 pieces of literature; that they are in touch with educators and public schools; that they finance the publication of text books on public utilities; that they are in touch with every movement that affects their interests and that their propaganda is nation wide.

The probe would open the eyes of the average citizen if he were told the facts. But he is none the wiser.

Things don't "just happen." There is a cause for everything.

The public utilities show how public opinion can be manufactured.

AMERICA IS "OVER-ENGINED;" "HAS TOO MUCH EFFICIENCY"

Easton, Pa., May 5.—"America is over-engined and chief among the liabilities of today is the excess of production capacity in most branches of industry," said George Otis Smith, director of the United States Geological Survey, in an address before the Lehigh Valley Mineral Industries.

The present situation is caused by "too much efficiency," said the speaker, who urged engineers to give more attention to economics. He said our industrial machine is speeded up "possibly beyond the limits of economic safety," and he called on engineers to awaken to new social problems.

"The engineer—be he civil or mechanical, electrical or mining —has simply done his work too well," declared the scientist. "In these days that long-revered law of supply and demand has to endure much at the hands of engineers. A greatly desired balance of production and consumption is defeated at every turn by efficiency.

"All this is an inevitable consequence of modern industry interfering with an ancient law in economics, and to me the lesson is obvious: engineers need to give more attention to economics.

"You engineers know the facts better than the economists and you are less hampered by acquaintance with economic theory—why are you not best fitted to tackle such business problems as the control of production and find the solution in terms of conditions existing in 1928? Some of the old theories are the worst for wear, and replacements are now in order."

The speaker said that politics has not kept pace with science. "That marvelous manifestation of efficiency that I have just referred to as speeding up our industries possibly beyond the limits of economic safety," he said, "has no parallel in government circles, whether in Washington, Harrisburg or Easton.

"Economic changes must be planned to meet the demands of the heavier traffic, new political structures must be erected, new social power must be generated, and the effective citizen of today is the one who can see ahead of the present moment and can plan to safely meet the demands of the future. I believe that the engineer is a citizen of just that type."

"REDS" CHANGE NAME TO EVADE PUBLICITY

New York, May 5.—The Pennsylvania-Ohio Miners' Relief Committee is now known as the National Miners' Relief Committee.

The former was denounced by the United Mine Workers as a Communist outfit, and the "reds" change their name to evade hostile publicity.

Utilities Mold Unfair Public Opinion; Educators and Public Schools Reached

Washington, May 5.—The Federal Trade Commission's public utilities probe, ordered by the Senate, is revealing the ramifications of these corporations in controlling public opinion.

Since last June, when the utilities organized a national publicity board, nearly 2,000,000 pieces of literature have been distributed. The companies have contributed $400,000. The literature includes pamphlets, reprints of newspaper and magazine articles, mimeographed news releases, statements by utility executives and government officials, debates in Congress and the like.

Close contact was maintained with educators. During school vacations the New England bureau offers employment to students "who are interested in public utilities." Money was liberally spent for high-priced lobbyists, who pose as attorneys.

Rob Roy McGregor, assistant director of the Illinois bureau, agreed that "almost everybody beginning with the eighth grade and growing up from that point, including young and old, are reached before we get through."

Educators are aided in the publication of works in favor private ownership of public utilities, and a close record is maintained on public speakers. One witness showed that the Iowa bureau asked the Illinois bureau for information regarding a professor of the University of Iowa who was scheduled to deliver an address before the University of Iowa. The Iowa bureau was notified to "prepare for the worst." This made it possible to arrange a hostile atmosphere for the Chicago educator, and to discount anything he might say that was unfavorable to the privately-owned utilities.

It was shown that every text book on the subject of public utilities has been located, and "considerable assistance" given to text book writers who approach the subject from the private ownership standpoint.

POLICY OF BRITISH COAL OWNERS BRINGS POVERTY TO THAT NATION

New York, May 5.—Poverty and destitution is general throughout the coal fields of Great Britain, according to London cables.

This information is of especial interest to America because the attitude of coal owners in this country is identical to the attitude of British coal owners, who last year smashed the Miners' Union, increased the work day and reduced wages.

The British coal industry was confronted with the same ills that exist in America—overproduction overmanning and high cost mines. Two royal commissions reported in favor of changes in the industry, but the owners refused to elaborate. They wanted to be left alone, just as in America. Their one remedy was to destroy the union and debase work conditions. This they accomplished, just as American coal owners would do.

London cables now state that conditions in the big mining areas "is little short of appalling." A nation-wide movement has been started in London to relieve distress. The subscription list is headed by the king and queen, who have contributed $4,000.

Because of the prostrate industry, many municipalities are bankrupt. They are paying thousands of dollars interest on bank loans that have been distributed as poor relief to families who face starvation. No one has any idea how these loans, which total millions of dollars, will be liquidated, or how the crushing interest rates can be continued.

The coal owners and the Tory government are responsible for this struggle. They defeated organized labor and they now stand bewildered as they attempt to count the cost.

Casualties of the coal owners and their political allies are increased by the solidarity of workers who cling to their unions and who are winning seats in the House of Commons at every "off" election.

The workers are confident that next year the Labor Party will win the general election over Premier Baldwin and the Conservative Party.

OIL OUTPUT IS REDUCED BY STATE BOARD ORDER

Austin, Texas, May 5.—The State Railroad Commission notified oil producers in Winkler county that they must cut their daily output from 227,000 barrels to 150,000 barrels.

These business men, who insist on "running their own business" when labor is involved, are flooding the market with their oil, and can not agree between themselves to stop this overproduction. They have refused to help the State Commission to give them orders, and are now told that only one well in every ten acres can be drilled.

STRIKE FUND URGED BY UNION MUSICIANS

New York, May 5.—The American Federation of Musicians, affiliated to the A. F. of L., will raise a fund "to meet any contingency that may develop."

In a letter to members, attention is called to the rapid trustification that is taking place in the theatrical field. Corporations control at least 80 per cent, and the movement is growing, musicians are informed.

"A corporation is in a position to stage an indefinite fight with a local, by severing it from the line of bookings now being made by the Chicago Federation of Labor, from telling why floral shop employes are on strike.

The attempt to gag labor is marking the radio as a new departure by labor baiters. The employers squirm under the publicity given their "yellow dog" and anti-union shop. The unionists advise the public not to buy flowers that are handled under these conditions.

CLOSE BARBER SHOPS

Everett, Wash., May 5.—The city commissioners adopted an early closing ordinance for barber shops at the request of employers and employed.

HOW THE PEOPLE ARE TRICKED; UTILITIES WORK BEHIND SCENES

Washington, May 5.—"Keep behind the scenes and let our cat's-paws be out on the stage" is the policy of the combined public utilities, as revealed by the Federal Trade Commission's probe.

It is shown that Governor Governor Merritt C. Mechem of New Mexico attended the Denver conference last year of Western Governors on the Boulder Dam project. He sat in the open and executive sessions of the conference. He signed, "as representing New Mexico," a resolution favoring delay of the Boulder Dam project. Mecham was later paid $5,299 by the joint committee of the private utilities corporations.

In July, last year, a conference of Western Governors was held in northern Michigan. The utility probe has uncovered this report to the joint committee by some power lobby cat's-paw on how Boulder Dam can be defeated:

"In this connection it occurs to me that there is opportunity for some effective work in the Colorado River States prior to this (August) conference of seven Western Governors. If Utah and perhaps one other State can be influenced to continue the battle against Boulder Dam, it is going to be much more difficult to obtain approval in Congress or any appropriation bill of such proportions as will be required for the Boulder Dam development."

Another ominous feature of the probe is the success of the power lobby in "putting over" their propaganda in the public schools.

While the public utilities apply these backstairs method, they assure the country that the purpose of their joint committee is to establish better relations with the people.

RELIEF FOR MINERS DIRECTED BY A. F. OF L.

Washington, May 5.—In a general letter to organized labor, officers of the A. F. of L. call attention to the attempt of Communists to interest the public in the raising of funds which is alleged to aid striking coal miners.

The Ohio-Pennsylvania Miners' Relief Committee is mentioned as the leader in this Communist drive. This committee was recently denounced by the United Mine Workers and has since changed its name to the National Miners' Relief Committee.

"There are other destructive forces whose titles are misleading and whose representatives would create dissension among striking coal miners," the letter to the unions declares. "These organizations are supported by Communist publications that seek to destroy the confidence of the United Mine Workers in their officials. In this respect they are allies with the coal operators."

Organized labor is urged to insist that A. F. of L. credentials be shown by every one who pleads for aid in behalf of the miners.

"In making your contributions to help the miners, follow the instructions contained in the A. F. of L. appeals. Concentrate your efforts by sending contributions to one central source. The need for help, both food and money, has increased."

All contributions should be forwarded to Frank Morrison, A. F. of L. secretary, Washington, and supplies to John P. Hunt, Columbia Building, Pittsburgh, Pa.

POVERTY IS BLAMED FOR CHILD SICKNESS

Washington, May 5.—"Poverty is the principle cause of sickness and disease among workers' children," said William Green, president A. F. of L., in a radio address under the auspices of the American Child Health Association.

"The child who suffers from poverty is helpless; it is a tragic victim of its parents' economic distress," said the trade unionist. "Poverty is due to a number of causes. Sickness is often traceable to illness, old age and dependency, but largely to unemployment and low wages. It is a social problem which must be solved if children's ill health, resulting from undernourishment and impoverishment, is to be eliminated.

"The workers can not buy the necessary food and clothing, nor can they provide decent housing conditions for their children unless their income corresponds with their domestic and family needs. Health, happiness, home and home environment for millions of workers' children depend upon wages and income.

"Organized labor's position is sustained by experts, scientists and governmental authorities, who show that infant mortality in the homes of workers has increased or declined in direct proportion to the increase and decline of income. If we are to save the children we must abolish poverty resulting from low wages and unemployment."

ANTI-CHAIN STORE LAW IS ILLEGAL, SAYS COURT

Cumberland, Md., May 5.—Circuit Court Judge Albert A. Daub has declared unconstitutional the Maryland law which imposes a special yearly tax on chains of six stores or more.

"It is not shown why the interest of the public, as distinguished from a particular class, requires that chain stores be regulated," the court said.

"The jobber and wholesaler may be interested in some form of regulation or elimination of competition, but no evidence does not show that the public has been damaged by chain stores or their methods of operation, and even if the welfare of the public demanded some form of regulation this act wholly fails to provide any regulation at all. It is an act to check and destroy, to eliminate competition in foodstuffs rather than to promote competition in the interest of the general public, the consumers."

The court said that no class of retailers could be outlawed, either under the civil or the criminal law, "merely because they are acquiring by efficient methods of business a large proportion of the retail grocery business of the country."

INJUNCTION PROCESS FAILS TO GAG RADIO

Chicago, May 5.—Judge Hebel has refused to enjoin Radio Station WCFL, owned and operated by the Chicago Federation of Labor, from telling why floral shop employes are on strike.

The attempt to gag labor in using the radio is a new departure by labor baiters. The employers squirm under the publicity given their "yellow dog" and anti-union shop. The unionists advise the public not to buy flowers that are handled under these conditions.

CLOSE BARBER SHOPS

Everett, Wash., May 5.—The city commissioners adopted an early closing ordinance for barber shops at the request of employers and employed.

IRON WORKERS SUED; BOSSES WANT MILLIONS

New York, May 5.—A $100,000 damage suit against the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers has been filed by the Harris Structural Steel Company. The usual conspiracy charges are alleged. The complainant is affiliated with the anti-union Structural Steel Board of Trade and the anti-union National Erectors' Association.

The union is already facing a $5,000,000 damage suit and has been enjoined by Federal, State and city courts.

These employers are closely allied in their anti-union program. Walter Drew, their attorney, boasts that they closed down building operations on March 19 to defeat bricklayers who would aid the iron workers.

Drew states that the steel erectors will continue their anti-union policy, despite every effort of iron workers to establish collective bargaining. To accomplish their purpose they applied a general lockout and are attempting to destroy the workers' morale by damage suits and injunctions.

WOULD STOP SAFETY WORK

Washington, May 5.—Rail managers ask the Interstate Commerce Commission to allow them to exercise their judgment in the installation of safety devices.

To date, the railroads have a record of installing practically no safety device until compelled to.

INJUNCTION HISTORY MADE IN LABOR SUIT

Milwaukee, May 5.—A jury in Federal District Judge Geiger's court made history when it cleared 24 striking members of the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers' Union of contempt of court. They were charged with violating an injunction granted to the Allen-A Company of Kenosha, Wis.

Judge Geiger instructed the jury that under the law the strikers ignored the order not to picket, but the jury must decide whether there has been a conspiracy to violate the order.

Under the Clayton law a jury trial is granted in criminal contempts —that is, where an act committed is a violation of statutory law. The Supreme Court has upheld this section in 1924 in the case of shopmen on strike against the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railroad. These workers were charged with conspiring to interfere with interstate commerce by picketing and with using force and violence. The shop men were denied a trial by jury and this was affirmed by the Circuit Court of Appeals and reversed by the Supreme Court. The court held that in these cases (criminal contempts) "prosecution must be in conformity with the practice in criminal cases."

Attorneys for anti-union employers who secure injunctions evade this clause of the Clayton act by charging workers with acts that are not criminal, such as "interference with patronage."

WAITRESSES' JOBS SOLD FOR $10 A WEEK

New York, May 5.—Court proceedings revealed that waitresses have to pay $10 a week for employment in the Alice Foote MacDougall Restaurant chain in this city. The girls must depend upon tips. The owner of the chain could not be interviewed. She has been in Europe for several weeks.

EXTEND COMPENSATION

Washington, May 5.—The Senate has included District of Columbia civilian employes in the longshoremen's and harbor workers' compensation act. Employes engaged in agriculture, domestic employment and casual work are exempt.

The amendment, proposed by Senator Blaine, is a compromise in a long fight for the Fitzgerald bill, urged by organized labor, which provided for state compensation, and the Underwood bill, which favored private compensation.

METAL WORKERS GAIN

Memphis, Tenn., May 5.—Sheet metal workers raised wages $1 a day. Employers and employed have set up a joint committee on apprentices.

LABOR'S OLD-TIME FOE ASSURED LIFE INCOME

Danbury, Conn., May 5.—Dietrich E. Loewe, who led an anti-union fight against the United Hatters of North America, a quarter of a century ago, is assured a life income.

The Connecticut Manufacturers' Association initiated a movement to raise $50,000 for Loewe, and this has been exceeded by several thousand dollars, it is stated.

Loewe, in his seventy-fifth year, is partially blind and in straightened circumstances, is to receive the annuity that he may be relieved of financial worries.

His fight against the hatters was taken up by the American Federation of Labor. A decision by the United States Supreme Court in that case has been of inestimable value to anti-union employers, who now contribute to one who made the decision possible.

LABOR NOT INJURED BY MACHINERY, YET

New York, May 5.—The displacement of workers by machinery and other processes is, "as yet," an economic myth, according to Magnus W. Alexander, chairman of the National Industrial Conference Board, which represents a score of anti-union organizations of employers.

Mr. Alexander does not favor discussion of the unemployment problem. He says out-of-work estimates are "largely guesswork and often detrimental to business, as far as practical purposes are concerned."

STATE UNIONS TO MEET

Hagerstown, Md., May 5.—The annual convention of the Maryland-District of Columbia Federation of Labor will convene in this city on Monday, May 28.

BAKERS RAISE WAGES

Spokane, May 5.—Organized bakers are enforcing a wage increase of $2 to $6 a week. The largest baking concern in this city has accepted the new rates.

FARM WAGES LOW

Memphis, Tenn., May 5.—Scarcity of farm labor is reported in near-by states. Wages average $1.64 a day. This is exclusive of board.

FIVE RADIUM WORKERS FACING CERTAIN DEATH

Newark, N. J., May 5.—Luminous watch dials are attractive, but not to five young women who heard physicians testify in the chancery court that their work with radium paint means certain death to them and that medical science knows no cure.

The women were employed by the United States Radium Corporation. Each of them is suing for $250,000 damages. They claim that the radioactive substance in their bodies which are eating away the tissues and rotting their bones, is the result of working with radium paint to make the luminous numbers on the watch dials and that they were instructed, when they first started, to point their lips, that they could get the best results by wetting and pointing their brushes with their lips and tongues.

The women originally filed their claim in the Supreme Court, but the corporation had this proceeding quashed on the ground that they were barred from relief by the two-year statute of limitation. They are now asking the equity court to decide if this limitation applies. The women claim that the slow operation of this dread disease and its occupational disease did not acquaint them with their inevitable and premature ending.

PRESIDENT NAMES RAIL DISPUTE BOARD

Washington, May 5.—Acting under the railway labor law, President has created a board to investigate and report to him within 30 days regarding the labor dispute on the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railroad.

This is the first time since the law went into effect, more than a year ago, that it was necessary to invoke the provision for the creation of an emergency board, which acts when a dispute cannot be settled by mediation or arbitration.

OIL COMPANY DROPS SEVEN-DAY WORK WEEK

New York, May 5.—The Standard Oil Company of California announces that hereafter its drilling crews will work six days a week instead of seven. The seven-day week is the rule with other large companies, which may accept the change.

The California company finds that experiments with the eight-hour day for its drilling crews sustain organized labor that the long work week is uneconomical. The unions have for years urged this claim, but not until now does the company state: "It will probably be found that the work will go on as well as ever while the men will be far better off with a regular day of rest and recreation each week."

URGE OUT-OF-WORK PROBE

Washington, May 5.—A joint resolution to investigate unemployment has been introduced in the Senate by Mr. La Follette, and in the House by Mr. Jacobstein.

WILLIAM NEER PASSES ON; WAS TRADE UNION GENIUS

Chicago, May 5.—W. A. Neer, secretary of the Milk Wagon Drivers' Union, suddenly died in Honolulu, where he had gone to regain his health.

Through his genius he made the Milk Drivers' organization one of the most wonderful unions in this country.

Washington, May 5.—"The death of William Neer is a loss to the trade union movement," said Daniel J. Tobin, president of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, who is in this city attending a meeting of the A. F. of L. executive council, of which he is a member.

"William Neer showed the possibilities of unity by the workers," said Mr. Tobin. "Under his leadership these drivers raised wages, shortened hours and used their tools to every civic and social activity. He did what was declared to be impossible."

KEY MEN WANT MORE

Baltimore, May 5.—Order of Railroad Telegraphers and Baltimore & Ohio Railroad are arbitrating wages and work conditions. Frederick H. Kreiman, former mayor of St. Louis, is the neutral member of the board.

West Virginia Anti-Union Plot Used By Originators In Ohio

Washington, May 5. — The union-smashing policy of coal operators, and their plea that they are forced to this action because of West Virginia competition, was exposed by John L. Lewis, president United Mine Workers, before the Senate strike probe committee.

Lewis, as union official compelled Whitney Warner, vice president of the Warner Collieries Company, to acknowledge that his corporation aided in demunionizing West Virginia and Kentucky, and in supplying the same methods to their Ohio properties.

This double dealing by coal operators is ignored by opponents of the mine strikers. The miners were driven out of the southern fields, with the aid of gunmen and injunction judges, and employers who instigated this policy plead that they can not pay the Jacksonville scale for their union fields because of cheaper labor costs of "competitors," which they themselves own.

The miners have repeatedly shown that this so-called "competition" is a fiction, and that the long struggle in West Virginia was plotted by the coal owners to establish a non-union base for their union attack in the northern fields.

Now the same methods are being employed in Ohio, where private armies, equipped with bombs and machine guns are maintained by the operators to "protect their property." The purpose, however, is the same as in West Virginia—smash the union and establish individual bargaining.